

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are all the claims which have been examined. Claims 1-3 are rejected. Claims 4-7 are objected to. Claim 7 is canceled. Hence, claims 1-6 are all the claims pending in the Application.

Interview Summary

On June 18, 2008, on behalf of Applicants, Steven M. Gruskin contacted the Examiner regarding the Amendment filed on February 3, 2006. A Statement of Substance of Interview is attached.

Preliminary Matters

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating acceptance of the drawings filed on February 6, 2006.

Applicants also thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and confirming receipt of the certified copy of the priority document from the International Bureau.

Specification

The specification is objected to by the Examiner. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the Amendment filed on February 3, 2006 introduced new matter into the disclosure.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Amendment did not introduce new matter. In the new claim 1, the original claim 1 was amended to include the features that “A lower half body module of a bipedal walking robot comprising as said passive joints:

base side passive joints having overturned U-shaped base side upper couplings fixed to said base, overturned U-shaped base side lower couplings fixed to ends of said linear motion links respectively and connecting rotating portions which orthogonally and rotatably connect said base side upper coupling with said base side lower coupling; and

foot side passive joints having overturned U-shaped foot side upper couplings fixed to the other ends of said linear motion links respectively, foot side lower couplings rotatably fixed to said feet respectively, and connecting rotating portions which orthogonally and rotatably connect said foot side upper coupling with said foot side lower coupling.”

The features noted above which were added to the original claim 1 were described in the original claim 7. Therefore, with the amendment of new claim 1, the original claim 7 was canceled.

The language added at page 7, lines 5-18 in the amended specification was added in compliance with the amendment of the new claim 1, and it was described from page 14, lines 4-17 in the original specification.

The added mechanism which was described from page 9, line 13 to page 10, line 4 in the amended specification was added in compliance with the amendment of the new claim 1, and it was described from page 14, line 21 to page 15, line 12 in the original specification.

Also, the added advantageous effect which was described from page 37, line 19 to page 38, line 12 in the amended specification was added in compliance with the amendment of the new claim 1, and it was described from page 41, line 11 to page 42, line 5 in the original specification.

Applicants submit that all amendments to the specification were made in compliance with the amendments to the claims, and Applicants submit that the amendments were made within the scope of the matter which was described in original specification and figures.

Therefore, Applicants submit that the Amendment filed on February 3, 2006 does not introduce new matter into the disclosure. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claims 4-7 are objected to as being improper multiple dependent form. By this Amendment, Applicants amend the dependencies of claims 4 and 5, and clarify that claim 7 was canceled in the Amendment filed on February 3, 2006. Applicants submit that as amended, claims 4-6 are in proper multiple dependent form. Applicants therefore request that the objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Yasui et al. (US Patent 7,118,601 with JP 2002-054001 filed on February 28, 2002, hereinafter “Yasui”) in view of Charles et al. (US Patent 6,330,837, hereinafter “Charles”). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Although the Examiner asserts that the claimed invention would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in view of the cited references, Applicants submit that none of the cited references disclose “the bipedal walking robot” whose legs are provided on one base. Applicants therefore submit that the claimed invention is not taught by the cited art, and would not have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art.

Additionally, by this Amendment, Applicants further amend claim 1 to include the feature that “the parallel link mechanism portion (1a) of the right leg and the parallel link mechanism portion (1b) of the left leg are thus provided on the both sides of the base (2) respectively so as to be symmetrical to the center thereof.” Reference numbers are included for the Examiner’s benefit only, and are not intended to limit the claimed invention. Applicants submit that there is support for this feature at least at page 18, lines 18-21 in the original

specification, and at least at page 18, lines 6-9 in the amended specification. Applicants further submit that none of the cited references teach or fairly suggest this feature.

Therefore, Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is patentable. Applicants further submit that the remaining claims are all patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/SMG/

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